No Government subsidies are provided to small scale industries for marketing purposes. However, the industries certified as Small Scale Industries by Central or State Governments, who advertise through Akashvani or Doordarshan direct, are eligible for a concession of 15 per cent in the prescribed rates. Transport subsidy is provided to small scale industries located in North-Eastern Region and in certain specified hilly and remote areas on transport costs incurred on movement of raw materials from, and finished goods to, the designated rail heads/ports. Different State Govts. also provided various subsidies and concessions such as Capital subsidy, power subsidy, sales tax exemption/deferment, interest subsidy etc. to units located in backward areas.

BHEL taking up oil exploration

1466. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BHEL is likely to take up oil exploration in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Quality of toilet soaps

1467. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the toilets soaps in the market do not even meet the Grade-3 standard, the lowest on the quality scale;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Bun of Indian Standards Technical Committee on Soaps and Other Surface Active Agents has formulated IS 2888; 1983 Specification for toilet soaps (second revision) with two amendments. This standard prescribed 3, grades of toilet soaps with total fatty matter (TFM) content of 76.0, 70.0 and 60.0 per cent by mass, minimum for grade 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The TFM contenty are normally declared by the manufacturers on the wrappers of toilet soaps. Some toilet soaps marketed in the country are declaring TFM content lower than 60 per cent.

(c) Action has been initiated to include BIS standards of safety and quality for toilet soaps under the Drugs & Cosmatics Rules, 1945.

Revamping foreign investment strategy

1468. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign investment strategy is proposed to be revamped; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE

OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The foreign investment policy, as enumerated in the Statement on Industrial Policy of 24th July, 1991, is constantly kept under watch so as to respond promptly to the foreign investors' genuine needs and to make it internationally competitive.

Disinvestment in PSUs

1469. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the monetary value of disinvestment of PSUs shares during the tenure of the present Government;

(b) the amount of share thus have accrued to private industries/foreign industries; and

(c) what has been its reflections on the profitability of the PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Government realised through disinvestment of PSU shares Rs. 3038 crores and Rs. 1912 crores during 1991-92 and 1992-93 respectively. During 1991-92, all the shares disinvested were sold to the public sector Financial Institutions, Mutual Funds & Banks. During 1992-93, out of 44.94 crore shares disinvested, only 0.25 crore shares were sold to private parties/ institutions. It is too early to evaluate the reffections of disinvestment on the profitability of PSUs.

Winding up National Bicycle Corporation

1470. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to wind up the National Bicycle Corporation, a public sector undertaking;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what efforts have been made by Government to make the Corporation economically viable; and

(d) the manner in which the affected employees of the Corporation are proposed to be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd. (NBCIL) being a loss making company is under reference to BIFR. After considering the facts and circumsfances of the case in its last hearing, the BIFR has formed a prima-facie opinion that the unit is not viable on long-term basis and accordingly has decided to issue a show-cause notice to wind it up.

(d) BIFR is yet to give its final recommendation.

खादी ग्रामोद्योग आयोग का विकास

1471. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :